CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A combination spool and bobbin holder comprising:

at least one spool receiving member; and

at least one bobbin receiving member, wherein said at least one bobbin receiving member is carried proximate to said at least one spool retaining member.

2. The holder of claim 1, wherein said spool receiving member is comprised of resilient material.

3. The holder of claim 2, wherein said resilient material is selected from the group consisting of plastic, rubber, metal, nylon and wood.

4. The holder of claim 1, wherein said bobbin receiving member is comprised of resilient material.

5. The holder of claim 4, wherein said resilient material is selected from the group consisting of plastic, rubber, metal, nylon and wood.

6. The holder of claim 3, wherein said resilient material is translucent.

7. The holder of claim 5, wherein said resilient material is translucent.

8. The holder of claim 3, wherein said resilient material is transparent.

9. The holder of claim 5, wherein said resilient material is transparent.

10. The holder of claim 1, wherein said at least one spool receiving member is selected from the group consisting of at least one generally 'U'-shaped member, at least one generally pin-shaped member and at least one generally coil-shaped member.

11. The holder of claim 10, wherein said generally pin-shaped member comprises a prong-shaped member.

12. The holder of claim 10, wherein said generally pin-shaped member comprises a pin and disc member.

13. The holder of claim 10, wherein said at least one generally 'U'-shaped spool receiving member has two side edges and two ends, and wherein each of said two ends defines a generally arcuate peripheral edge.

14. The holder of claim 13, wherein said two side edges of said at least one generally 'U'-shaped spool receiving member define a spool receiving area having a dimension less than the length of the spool to be received therein.

15. The holder of claim 10, wherein said at least one generally pin-shaped member comprises at least one solid rod, wherein said at least one solid rod is capable of retaining the spool in a frictional fit.

16. The holder of claim 10, wherein said at least one generally pin-shaped member comprises at least one solid rod having a longitudinal axis, wherein said at least one solid rod further comprises at least one disc thereon in a plane normal to said longitudinal axis of said solid rod, and wherein said at least one solid rod and said at least one disc frictionally retain the spool.

17. The holder of claim 1, wherein said at least one spool receiving member comprises:

a base; and

a pin-shaped member, wherein the spool is held frictionally by said pin-shaped member proximate said base, whereby thread from the spool is securable between said base and the spool.

18. The holder of claim 1, wherein said at least one spool receiving member comprises:

a spirally-wound spring member, wherein said spring member can be extended around the spool, and wherein the spring member and its desire to return to a wound state retains the spool.

19. The holder of claim 1, wherein said at least one bobbin receiving member is generally 'U'-shaped and has two peripheral ends.

20. The holder of claim 19, wherein each of said two peripheral ends of said at least one generally 'U'-shaped bobbin receiving member defines a generally arcuate edge.

21. The holder of claim 19, wherein said at least one generally 'U'-shaped bobbin receiving member has an interior surface, and wherein at least one bobbin retention ridge is carried by said interior surface.

22. The holder of claim 19, further comprising means for inhibiting lateral movement of the bobbin.

23. The holder of claim 21, comprising at least two bobbin retention ridges, wherein said at least two bobbin retention ridges are positioned to receive the bobbin therebetween.

24. The holder of claim 1, wherein said spool receiving member and said bobbin receiving member are positioned in planes rotated by ninety degrees relative to one another.

25. The holder of claim 1, wherein said spool receiving member and said bobbin receiving member are integrally molded.

26. A method of retaining a spool together with a bobbin comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining a device having a first section for holding the spool and a second section for holding the bobbin;

b) inserting said first section into or around the spool; and

c) inserting the bobbin into or within said second section of said device.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein said second section for holding the bobbin has at least one bobbin retention boundary.

28. The method of claim 26, wherein second section for holding the bobbin comprises generally flared edges.

29. The method of claim 26, wherein said first section comprises a receiving device selected from the group consisting of at least one generally 'U'-shaped member, at least one generally pin-shaped member and at least one generally coil-shaped member.

30. An apparatus for holding a plurality of spools and a plurality of bobbins, comprising:

a plurality of spool holders; and

a plurality of bobbin holders.

31. The apparatus of claim 30, wherein each said spool holder of said plurality of spool holders defines a receptacle dimensioned to removably receive a spool, and wherein each said bobbin holder of said plurality of bobbin holders defines a receptacle dimensioned to receive a bobbin.

32. The apparatus of claim 30, wherein each said bobbin holder of said plurality of bobbin holders has an inner surface, wherein at least a portion of the peripheral edges of said inner surface protrude from said inner surface of said bobbin holder.

33. The apparatus of claim 31, wherein each said receptacle is defined by a first end and a second end, wherein each said end has generally arcuate shape.